

**To:** Howard, AshleyA[Howard.AshleyA@epa.gov]; Rawls, Maurice[Rawls.Maurice@epa.gov]; Balli, Javier[balli.javier@epa.gov]; Camacho, Ruben[Camacho.Ruben@epa.gov]  
**From:** Varnado, Miriam  
**Sent:** Mon 8/17/2015 9:17:52 PM  
**Subject:** RE: PLS reply by 1:00 PM today, Monday, 8/17 if possible

Thanks Ashley!

Miriam

**From:** Howard, AshleyA  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 4:11 PM  
**To:** Varnado, Miriam; Rawls, Maurice; Balli, Javier; Camacho, Ruben  
**Subject:** RE: PLS reply by 1:00 PM today, Monday, 8/17 if possible

Miriam,

I would think that the source water protection route would be best. However, from what Blake was talking about today when I talked to him, all sampling is showing results below the MCLs. So honestly, without any significant contamination, I am not sure this is the right program either.

And many of these systems are already able to handle what is in the water. I don't think that the systems need to install anything for a new contaminant. Also, the systems have already started drawing from the river.

I know that sediment is a concern, and they are hoping that a good rain will come so we can sample what is going to be stirred up from the sediment in the water, but so far people are thinking it will not be enough to be a problem.

I am not sure our program is much help here Maurice,

Thanks,

Ashley

**From:** Varnado, Miriam

**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 3:22 PM

**To:** Howard, AshleyA; Rawls, Maurice; Balli, Javier; Camacho, Ruben

**Subject:** RE: PLS reply by 1:00 PM today, Monday, 8/17 if possible

Based on the NM-CWSRF SFY 2016 IUP I do not see any funding used for the purpose of long-term monitoring. Maurice let me know if you would like me to give NM CWSRF a call?

Here is what I found in the WRRDA guidance:

Even though I do not see the word “monitor” in the WRRDA amendments that can fund long-term monitoring there is wording that would could imply using money for “(6) *INCREASED RESILIENCE OF TREATMENT WORKS.—Efforts to assess*

*future risks and vulnerabilities of publicly owned treatment works to manmade or natural disasters, including extreme weather events and sea-level rise, and to carry out measures, on a systemwide or area-wide basis, to increase the resiliency of publicly owned treatment works.”*

*Miriam*

**From:** Howard, AshleyA

**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 2:12 PM

**To:** Rawls, Maurice; Balli, Javier; Camacho, Ruben; Varnado, Miriam

**Subject:** RE: PLS reply by 1:00 PM today, Monday, 8/17 if possible

There is money for monitoring but I would check to see with Miriam whether that is something that the state is funding as part of the CWSRF.

Miriam?

**From:** Rawls, Maurice  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 12:49 PM  
**To:** Balli, Javier; Camacho, Ruben; Howard, AshleyA  
**Subject:** PLS reply by 1:00 PM today, Monday, 8/17 if possible

Pls see David's question below. Can't we fund long term monitoring via the DWSRF set asides, perhaps the 15%.

Also, what about CWSRF... any availability to monitor via the WRDDA Amendments?

Maurice "Moe" Rawls

Chief, SRF & Projects Section

US EPA R6 (6WQ-AP)

ph: (214) 665-8049

**From:** Garcia, David  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 10:52 AM  
**To:** Hosch, Claudia  
**Cc:** Honker, William; Rawls, Maurice; Jones, Curry; Crossland, Ronnie; Edlund, Carl  
**Subject:** FW: Draft comments 8/16/2015-for DWB criteria

Claudia,

Please read Ronnie's email below. Are there existing NMED grant mechanisms that can be used for support of long term monitoring:

-

- ████████ River Condition:** Routine stream sampling with the same analytes should continue by the EPA in order to monitor water quality changes with stream flow changes.

- ████████ Aquifer Condition:** EPA should continue with follow up monitoring of the same analytes in the source water for potentially impacted public groundwater wells after typical pumping has occurred.

- ████████ Long term Sediment Impacts:** The impacts of processing and treating source water with such increased levels of contaminated sediment are unknown. DWB would want confirmation from EPA that they would continue to monitor sediment quality and assume responsibility for any future damages/repairs to treatment facilities that may result from the contaminated sediment.

David F. Garcia

Deputy Director

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## Follow EPA Region 6



**From:** Edlund, Carl

**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 10:35 AM

**To:** Crossland, Ronnie

**Cc:** Webster, Susan; Petersen, Chris; Bernier, Roberto; Garcia, David; Restivo, Angela

**Subject:** Re: Draft comments 8/16/2015-for DWB criteria

Is it possible to separate short term (2 weeks or less) from long term (2 weeks +)? actions.

Sediment: If we did TCLP on sediment samples that we have already and find that it passes, wouldn't that resolve future concerns from storm events? Seems to me that future release events from Gold King or other sites would be a whole new thing and outside of this agreement.

Drinking water: in the next 2 weeks we should get results from the short holding time systems (Morningstar, others), if they test safe, wouldn't that mean that longer retention systems would test even safer? I do understand that NMED wants EPA to be accountable. What actions would be needed if the systems have Gold King contaminants.

Regarding warning systems: I can see that NM was embarrassed by lack of communication regarding the surge (so were we) and wants something to prevent that in the future. Not sure USGS/ river warning system would solve what is a communication problem. Would an intergovernmental agreement between NM, R-6, and R-8 on emergency communication be better?

Do we have a compilation of different funding mechanisms in place already that might be used for future actions? 106 grant, SDW grants, cooperative agreements with different stakeholders? We could invent new ones but existing would be better.

Does this help?

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 17, 2015, at 8:23 AM, Crossland, Ronnie <[Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov](mailto:Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov)> wrote:

Carl,

I agree that the 100 day timeframe seems like a long time. However, the biggest issue is associated with the sediment basins. It appears that NMED wants EPA to take responsibility for the disposal of all sediment from DW Systems for the foreseeable future. Both total and dissolved sample results indicate low levels of metals. In addition, NMED wants EPA to install some type of river warning system to warn operators of either storm events that might stir up sediment or in the event another mine has a release. We have sampled the sediment and it below screening levels. Monitoring for future events is outside the scope of this response. These issues need to be resolved at a higher level.

Ronnie

**From:** Edlund, Carl

**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 8:41 AM

**To:** Webster, Susan

**Cc:** Petersen, Chris; Bernier, Roberto; Crossland, Ronnie

**Subject:** Re: Draft comments 8/16/2015-for DWB criteria

Thanks...largely good but I have a few questions: Short term seems pretty long (up to 100 days for water to go thru the system); we should be well past immediate Removal Action.

Wouldn't this be part of long term response? Payment through a grant (Water grant to NMED?).

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 16, 2015, at 7:37 PM, Webster, Susan <[webster.susan@epa.gov](mailto:webster.susan@epa.gov)> wrote:

Draft tonight.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Restivo, Angela" <[Restivo.Angela@epa.gov](mailto:Restivo.Angela@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** August 16, 2015 at 8:23:24 PM CDT  
**To:** "Garcia, David" <[Garcia.David@epa.gov](mailto:Garcia.David@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Webster, Susan" <[webster.susan@epa.gov](mailto:webster.susan@epa.gov)>, "Smith, Monica" <[smith.monica@epa.gov](mailto:smith.monica@epa.gov)>, "Foster, Althea" <[Foster.Althea@epa.gov](mailto:Foster.Althea@epa.gov)>, "Ngo, Kim" <[Ngo.Kim@epa.gov](mailto:Ngo.Kim@epa.gov)>, "Loston, Anthony" <[Loston.Anthony@epa.gov](mailto:Loston.Anthony@epa.gov)>, "Crossland, Ronnie" <[Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov](mailto:Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov)>, "McCasland, Mark" <[McCasland.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:McCasland.Mark@epa.gov)>, "Martin, John" <[martin.john@epa.gov](mailto:martin.john@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Draft comments 8/16/2015-for DWB criteria

This is a draft version.

Angela Restivo

Compliance Officer

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<Gold King Mine Spill All Clear Criteria Draft comments8162015.docx>